

LISTING OF THE CLAIMS:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions and listings of claims in the application:

1. (Currently amended) A method for providing a comparative listing of providers of a single item, said method comprising the steps of:

requesting [[a]] terms of offer related to said single item;

obtaining said requested terms of offer for said single item from at least one product/service provider;

adjusting, in response to obtaining said requested terms of offer for said single item, a second terms of offer for said single item from a host provider; and

presenting said requested terms of offer for said single item obtained from said at least one product/service provider and said adjusted second terms of offer from said host provider to a data requestor device over a communications link.

2. (Currently amended) The method of claim 1, wherein said step of requesting said terms of offer for said single item is in response to a user initiated request.

3. (Currently amended) The method of claim 1, wherein said step of requesting said terms of offer is enabled by said data requestor device.

4. (Previously presented) The method of claim 3, wherein said data requestor device is selected from the group consisting of a bar code scanner, a portable processor, a wireless telecommunication device, a computer, an information appliance, and a hand-held computing device.

5. (Previously presented) The method of claim 1, wherein said communications link comprises a network of computers.

6. (Previously presented) The method of claim 5, wherein said network of computers is the Internet.

7. (Currently amended) The method of claim 1, wherein ~~said step of requesting said terms of offer and said adjusted second terms of offer further comprise terms for said single item~~ is selected from the group consisting of requesting ~~the a~~ price of said single item, requesting ~~the a~~ delivery charge of said single item, requesting ~~the a~~ description of said single item, requesting ~~the a~~ finance charge of said single item, requesting ~~the a~~ delivery schedule of said single item, and requesting data pertaining to ~~the a~~ quality of said single item.

8. (Currently amended) The method of claim 1, wherein said step of obtaining said requested terms of offer from said at least one product/service provider includes obtaining said requested terms of offer from a database managed by said at least one product/service provider.

9. (Currently amended) The method of claim 1, wherein said step of obtaining said requested terms of offer from said at least one product/service provider includes obtaining said requested terms from a database managed by said host provider or by way of a system controlled by said host provider.

10. (Currently amended) The method of claim 1, wherein said step of adjusting said second terms of offer for said single item comprises determining if said host provider itself offers said single item.

11. (Currently amended) The method of claim 1, wherein said step of adjusting said second terms of offer for said single item comprises determining if said host provider can obtain said single item from another provider of said single item.

12. (Currently amended) The method of claim 1, wherein said step of adjusting said second terms of offer for said single item comprises varying said second terms of offer of said single item to include a minimum price margin for said host provider.

13. (Currently amended) The method of claim 1, wherein said step of adjusting said second terms of offer for said single item from said host provider comprises varying the terms of offer of said single item based on a pricing model.

14. (Currently amended) The method of claim 13, wherein said pricing model includes varying said second terms of offer for said single item based on said requested term of offer as obtained from said at least one product/service provider.

15. (Currently amended) The method of claim 13, wherein said pricing model includes varying said second terms of offer of said single item based on a propensity of a user to purchase said single item.

Claims 16-29. (Cancelled).